



# PRESS RELEASE

## STATE TREASURER JACK MARKELL

540 South DuPont Highway, Suite 4, Dover, DE 19901

Phone: 302/744-1000

Fax: 302/739-5635

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Contact:** Corey Marshall-Steele  
Executive Assistant, Office of the State Treasurer 302/744-1004  
C.Marshall-Steele@state.de.us

### OUTREACH CAMPAIGN GENERATES \$11 MILLION FOR 8,000 WORKING DELAWAREANS

**Wilmington, DE** – Delaware State Treasurer Jack Markell, along with Delaware State Senator Margaret Rose Henry and Mary Dupont, Executive Director of Wilmington's Nehemiah Gateway Community Development Corporation, announced today that the fourth annual Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) campaign generated \$11 million for 8,000 working Delawareans, a significant increase over last year.

"The 2004 EITC campaign has put more than \$11 million back into the pockets of working Delawareans," Mr. Markell stated. "This federal tax credit is widely regarded as our nation's most effective program at lifting working families out of poverty. My office is proud to support the Nehemiah Gateway Community Development Corporation and the 400 volunteers who played such a key role in this program."

The EITC campaign—coordinated by Wilmington-based Nehemiah Gateway Community Development Corporation and supported by a coalition of community organizations—promotes work by increasing the incomes of low-wage workers through a refundable tax credit. The EITC is available to families with incomes below \$36,000 and to single, childless workers making less than \$12,000. The refundable credit can total up to about \$4,300 annually, depending on income and the number of children in the family.

Sen. Henry introduced legislation that will create a Delaware version of the federal EITC program.

"I'm here to put the icing on this cake of goodwill," Sen. Henry said. "Senate Bill 105 will create a Delaware EITC that will benefit families by giving them a tax refund which can be used for a variety of needs that working families face."

"The need for this legislation was first brought to my attention several years ago," Henry continued. "At least 18 other states offer an income tax credit in addition to the federal EITC, and S.B. 105 has supporters from both sides of the aisle in the Senate and the House of Representatives. A Delaware EITC will be a fantastic tool to assist our working Delawareans."



**Sen. Margaret Rose Henry, Treasurer Jack A. Markell & Mary Dupont**